

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Please amend claims 1 to 27 as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended).

A method for producing shaped, activated charcoal with
comprising the following steps:

- grinding one or more carbon-bearing materials;
- homogeneously mixing the milled carbon-bearing material with a water-containing binding agent or a mixture of several binding agents, of which at least one contains water;
- shaping the mixture consisting of carbon-bearing material and binding agent into molded articles;
- drying the molded articles before carbonization to set the grain structure to up to an overall water weight of $\leq 3\%$ by wt.;
- drying the molded articles within 0.5 to 12 hours at temperatures of 40° C up to 150° C;
- carbonizing the molded articles, and

- activating the molded articles by means of an activation gas.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein drying takes place in a fixed bed and/or in a belt dryer.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein when drying the molded articles, a heated and, if necessary, oxygen-reduced or oxygen-free gas stream is passed over the molded articles.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the molded articles are dried to an overall water content of ≤ 1 %by wt.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the molded articles are dried at temperatures of ~~40~~
~~to 170°C, in particular 60 to 150°C.~~

Claim 6 (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the molded articles are dried at below their self-
ignition temperature.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the molded articles are dried ~~within 0.2 to 12~~
~~hours, in particular~~ within 0.5 to 6 hours.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the carbon-bearing material is wood charcoal, wood
charcoal from old timber, peat coal, fruit pits, nut shells, coal
coke and/or lignitic coke.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein carbon-bearing material used is carbonized via
natural and/or synthetic thermal treatment of one or more carbon-
bearing vegetable products.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended).

The method according to in claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the carbon-bearing material is wood charcoal and/or wood charcoal from old timber ~~in particular~~ and from beechwood charcoal.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended).

The method according to in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein one or more aggregates are added to the carbon-bearing material and/or the binding agent.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein KOH solution, K_2CO_3 , surfactant, stearate and/or carboxymethyl cellulose are added as the aggregate.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein 100% by wt. of the carbon-bearing material is milled to a grain size of $< 60 \mu m$.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein at least 95% by wt. of the carbon-bearing material is milled to a grain size of between 10 and $45 \mu m$.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the water-containing binding agent is a binding agent with 10 to 50 %by wt., ~~in particular 15 to 15% by wt.,~~ water.

Claim 16. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein molasses is used as the water-containing binding agent.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein coal tar, wood charcoal tar, bitumen and/or an inorganic gel is used as any non-water-containing binding agent that might be present.

Claim 18. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein 10 to 60 %by wt. binding agent, ~~in particular 25 to 40% by wt.,~~ are used relative to the mixture consisting of carbon-bearing material and binding agent.

Claim 19. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the steps of mixing and shaping are carried out in
one or two separate apparatuses.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the dried molded articles are carbonized at
temperatures of 400 to 750 °C, ~~in particular at 500 to 650 °C.~~

Claim 21. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the dried molded articles are carbonized in a three-
zone torque tube.

Claim 22. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the dried and carbonized molded articles are
activated at temperatures of 700 to 1000 °C, ~~in particular at 800~~
~~to 950 °C.~~

Claim 23. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the dried and carbonized molded articles are
activated with water vapor and/or carbon dioxide.

Claim 24. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the carbon-bearing materials are homogeneously mixed before, during or after milling, and that this mixture of solids is subsequently homogeneously mixed with the water-containing binding agent or the mixture of several binding agents, of which at least one contains water.

Claim 25. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the binding agents, of which at least one contains water, are first homogeneously mixed with each other, and that this binding agent mixture is subsequently homogeneously mixed with the carbon-bearing material or the mixture of several carbon-bearing materials.

Claim 26. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein at least one already milled carbon-bearing material is used.

Claim 27. (Currently Amended).

A shaped, activated charcoal produced ~~with~~ by a method according to claim 1.